

Mayflower Mountain Project, the Impact on Local Facilities

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EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the second in a three part series discussing the proposed Mayflower Mountain Project. The project will be holding hearings on April 11-13, to determine the impact on Wasatch County, and to take input from community leaders and residents. To help further understand the project, serious detail has been outlined.

Recently, the Heber Valley Special Service District (HVSSD) was organized and a new sewer plant was planned, designed, and built to allow for this growth. The sewer system was designed to handle growth in the three major communities of the valley; Charleston, Midway and Heber City.

Mayflower Projects have approached the Heber Valley District with a population which they fell will be beneficial to both parties interested.

Several alternatives were handling sewage treatment for the

Mayflower Development were explored. The first alternative consisted of construction of onsite sewage facilities including treatment facilities and lagoons for storage of waste water and dedication of large areas of irrigated land for spread application of treated effluent, much as the present HVSS systems are operated.

The second alternative involved onsite treatment of waste and discharge of treated effluent into the Provo River. A third alternative involved the construction of a sewer outfall line to the existing HVSSD Treatment Plant at Midway and entering into an agreement with the District for treatment of wastewater generated by the Mayflower Project.

The first alternative is feasible; however, it would create the necessity for the purchasing of large parcels of additional land to be used for spreading the treated wastewater. It also would be a duplication of the existing system

in Midway. It does not seem desirable to have two such facilities in the same small community.

The second alternative, while technically feasible, would involve a long process for approval, if approval could ever be obtained. The Provo River flows into Deer Creek Reservoir and becomes part of the municipal water system serving the Wasatch Front. Obtaining permits for discharge into this body of water would be very difficult.

Because of these factors it was decided that the connection into the existing sewage treatment facility at Heber City is the best alternative. The existing treatment facility at Midway is adequate to handle the projected needs of both the Mayflower and the Heber Valley area until 1990. Studies funded by the developer are currently being completed.

What the study shows, is that the Mayflower project, if included would pay for the existing plant,

while setting aside monies for the construction of additional facilities at the present site.

Payments submitted for consideration to the HVSSD were as follows: 1) An up front payment of \$1,000,000; 2) a contribution of the outflow turn line from the Mayflower Development to the existing Heber City outflow line; 3) connection fees in the amount of the present connection fee, per unit connected and; 4) monthly payments for service.

Mayflower projects conducted its own study into the capacity levels which the HVSSD will use. The Development indicated that if the Mayflower Project would be allowed to enter, there would be a total capacity reached by the year 1990. This also left room for the District members to continue to grow.

The initial payment of \$1 million would be for the paying off of the \$400 thousand debt reduction, which would result in current charges being reduced to local

customers by almost 12 percent.

The remaining \$600 thousand dollars would be placed in a reserve account with the highest interest possible. This with the connection fees of \$2.5 million from the project, and the service fees of nearly \$2.0 million will give the district almost 5.6 million dollars to construct a new addition to accommodate new connections.

Mayflower would be constructing the service lines from the project to the Heber City line, at an estimated cost of 765 thousand dollars. This line would later be donated to the district at no cost.

"Depending upon the findings, I'm for it," said Mayor Jan Furner, of Heber City. "Any favorable impact on the rates would be good."

Mayor Furner stated that there is not reason to keep the extra room at the plant when the development has offered to pay for the construction of a new facility.

Mayflower has given the HVSSD a letter of credit for

\$10,000 for a study to be conducted by the HVSSD, to add a second opinion to the situation.

Horrocks Engineering, original designers of the project was contracted to study the feasibility of the connection, the projected influx in the capacity, and the plants ability to handle the added waste.

Horrocks issued a statement on March 27, which basically stated that the system would take the added capacity, and that the proposal offered, in dollars and cents, by the Mayflower developer, would be a good investment.

Wasatch County Planner Bob Mathis said, "All in all, I'm confident that the Mayflower hook-up to the plant would not hurt the district."

Heber Valley Plant Manager Clyde Montgomery, said that according to the engineers report, there is enough room to handle the influx. Montgomery said that the plant would handle the processing of the added effluent also.

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Chad Duke

previously worked with Farmers Insurance Group.

He is a past member of the Heber Valley Jaycees and is at present serving on the Heber City Planning Commission.

He and his wife Jill have two children and live in Heber City.



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Planning Sends Plans Back to Start

MIDWAY—The Midway Planning Commission heard comments from Dee Hansen, Chief Backer for the Winkelreid Development in Midway, and sent Hansen back to the start with plans in hand.

Apparently the Winkelreid Development had been originally scheduled for larger, more expensive homes. The developers couldn't get the backing for the project, and came to the planning commission with a proposal to lower some of the house sizes, and the cost of the units.

The commission said that such a dramatic change will have to start anew.

Evan Probst talked with the commission about a zone change, though at present he had nothing to offer.